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HEALTH
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NEWPORT PAGNELL RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1943

Section A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	61,686
Number of Inhabited Houses	4,325
Rateable Value	£.60,399
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£247/13/6d.

Section B.

There is nothing to report this year under this heading.

Section C

WATER

On the whole the supplies have been fairly well maintained during the year, in spite of the low rainfall. It was necessary, for a short period, to curtail the supply from the Northern Source. It was also necessary to bring into supply the old Works at Hanslope, and this is still being used.

The Council have received many requests for water particularly for Agricultural purposes. This will naturally increase the demand for water, and how great the demand may ultimately be it is difficult to foresee, but with increased Agriculture in the post-War years the demand is likely to be much greater than at present. Steps have already been taken with this in view. In the Southern Area steps have been already taken to increase the supply from Birchmoor. In the Northern Area the Council have called in a Consulting Engineer to report on the means of obtaining a further supply from the Works at Weston Underwood.

Bacteriological examinations have been made quarterly of the water from the Olney source. All these Reports have been most satisfactory.

106 new connections were made during the year.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

I thought it would be of interest if I set down in tabular form the Drainage and Sewerage conditions in each Parish. I propose to do it under the following headings :-

1. Number of Houses in the Parish.
2. Number of Houses connected to Public Sewer, where such exists, for Sink Waste and W.C.
3. Sink waste only.
4. Number of Houses not so connected.
5. Method of Sewage Disposal.

Parish.	No. of Houses in each Parish.	No. of Houses connected to Public Sewer. Sink waste & W.C.'s.	Sink waste only.	No. of Houses not connected.	Method of Disposal.
Astwood	39	-	33	6	Piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Bradwell	155	40	103	12	do.
Bow Brickhill	121	10	110	1	Piped to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Little "	90	47	32	11	Sewer to proper disposal works.
Broughton	26	3	15	8	Piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Cold Brafield	26	none	25	1	do.
Castlethorpe	152	-	142	10	Piped sewer to sewer ditch. No proper treatment. Scheme prepared.
Chicheley	40	4	21	15	Piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Clifton Reynes.	34	3	21	10	Open sewer ditch through village.
Emberton	141	10	77	54	Piped sewer to ditch. No treatment. Scheme prepared
Gayhurst	27	-	-	27	No sewer or sewer ditch. Some houses have septic tanks.
Hanslope	376	-	282	94	Piped sewers to sewer ditches. No treatment. Scheme prepared.
Hardmead	22	-	-	22	No sewer or sewer ditch. Some houses have cesspools.
Haversham & Little Linfd.	201	137	20	44	2 private sewage works. Sewer ditch. No treatment.
Lathbury	33	-	15	18	Sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.
Lavendon	188	-	168	20	do. Scheme prepared.
Gt. Linford	155	6	73	76	Piped sewer to large pond, well diluted with water.
Loughton.	138	6	14	118	Piped sewer to sewer ditch. No treatment.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE (Contd.)

Parish. Parish.	No. of Houses in each Parish.	No. of Houses connected to Public Sewer		No. of Houses not connected.	Method of Disposal.
		Sink waste & W.C.'s	Sink waste only.		
Milton Keynes.	49	4	38	7	Piped sewer to sewer ditch No treatment.
Moulsoe	59	none	none	none	Chiefly cesspools.
Newton Blossomville	53	-	47	6	Piped sewer to sewer ditch No treatment.
Nth. Crawley	158	-	107	51	do.
Olney	813	811	-	2	Sewers to proper Disposal Works.
Olney Park.	3	-	-	3	Cesspools.
Ravenstone	78	-	76	2	Open sewer ditch through village. No treatment.
Shenley Church End	58	-	-	58	Chiefly cesspool drainage.
Sherington	153	149	-	4	Sewers to proper Disposal Works.
Stantonbury	8	-	-	8	Cesspool drainage.
Stoke Goldington.	141	-	122	19	Piped sewer to sewer ditch No treatment.
Tyringham & Filgrave	47	-	-	47	Chiefly cesspool drainage.
Walton	35	-	-	35	Cesspool drainage.
Warrington	19	-	-	19	Cesspool drainage.
Wavendon	209	55	137	16	Disposal to septic tank & sewer ditch & Woburn Sands Disposal Works.
Weston Underwood.	76	-	68	8	Piped sewer to sewer ditch. No proper treatment
Woburn Sands.	503	503	-	-	Sewers to proper Disposal Works.
Woolstone cum Willen	47	-	-	47	Chiefly cesspool drainage.
Woughton	51	-	31	20	Cesspools, and piped to sewer ditch.

It will be seen that in 18 Parishes the system of drainage is by piped sewer to sewer ditches and no treatment of the sewage. In a good number of these parishes the sewers leading to ditches consist of land tiles, open joints and brick culverts. It will be necessary to relay most of these when a proper Disposal System is installed.

In 10 Parishes the drainage is by cesspools.

SCAVENGING.

No change has been made in the system of scavenging during the year. On the whole the scavenging has been carried out satisfactorily, although there has been some difficulty owing to shortage of labour.

Section D.

HOUSING

No new houses have been completed during the year, but 4 are in course of erection. These are 4 Agricultural Cottages to be erected under the Ministry's Scheme. These houses are being built according to the Ministry of Works plan, on the Council's Housing Site at Chicheley. They will consist of large living room, kitchen with range and hot & cold water, bathroom, 3 bedrooms. They have been carefully planned and well built. The amenities they will provide are an improvement on former houses and should prove good, comfortable homes. The domestic work will be reduced, compared with what is required in many houses of similar size. There will be electric light which is clean and healthy. A good supply of hot & cold water and a bathroom add much to the convenience and well-being of the tenants. I think the Council are to be congratulated on their achievement.

HOUSING SITES

Bow Brickhill	2 acres adjoining existing site. One acre has already been purchased and negotiations for the purchase of the other acre are proceeding.
Loughton	½ acre already owned by the Council.
Wavendon	½ acre at Lower End already owned by the Council.
Castlethorpe	½ acre already owned by the Council.
Hanslope	½ acre " " " " "
Weston Underwood	½ acre " " " " "
Sherington	½ acre " " " " "
Lavendon	1½ acres " " " " "
Olney	4 acres " " " " "

Sites have been provisionally selected in the following Parishes :-

Hardmead	1½ acres.
Lathbury	1 acre
Woughton	2 acres
Haversham	2 acres

Negotiation will shortly be commenced for the purchase of these sites subject to the approval of the Town Planning Committee.

/The Housing

HOUSING. (contd.)

The Housing Committee is to be congratulated on the work they have already done for future housing. A tremendous work will have to be undertaken all over the country to meet the vast demand for houses that there will be after the War. The Committee have shown great foresight in getting the foundations, as it were, laid now, so that the erection of houses can be proceeded with quickly when the time comes and when labour and materials are available. As I said in my last Report good housing, good water and good drainage are the three essentials for the community; and in all these three the Council have gone ahead so as to be prepared for the future.

Overcrowding has diminished somewhat during the year, but there is still far too much for a healthy community. Only extra houses will eliminate this.

Section E.

Routine inspections of Premises where food is prepared and sold have been made.

A quantity of food, tinned and otherwise, found unfit for human consumption, has been suitably disposed of.

MILK

Wholesale Production. -

Several complaints were received from Dairies supplied from this District that the milk was of low standard of purity. This matter was investigated and it was found that the trouble was mainly due to unsatisfactory cleansing and sterilising of churns. The attention of the Dairies concerned was called to this matter and since then there has been a considerable improvement.

General Production. -

On the whole the milk produced in this District was found to be of Accredited standard.

The Cowsheds and Dairies have been inspected as far as possible. The conditions found at these inspections was a credit to the Farmers concerned considering the difficulties with which they have to contend.

Section F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table 1.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the Year 1943.

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	21	13	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Pneumonia	10	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Measles	44	-	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-

The cases notified occurred in the following Parishes :-

SCARLET FEVER

Parish.	Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.
Lavendon	9	8
Woburn Sands	3	3
Loughton	1	-
Castlethorpe	4	2
Olney	1	-
Shenley Church End	1	-
Filgrave	2	-
	21	13

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

Stoke Goldington 1.

This case was admitted to Northampton Hospital. The child's age was 7.

/PNEUMONIA

Section F. (contd)

PNEUMONIA

Parish.	Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.
Little Brickhill	2	-
Woburn Sands	2	-
Olney	1	-
Loughton	1	-
Milton Keynes	1	-
Weston Underwood	1	-
Lavendon	1	-
Old Bradwell	1	-
	10	

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Tyringham (East End Maternity Hospital)	5	-

ERYSIPELAS

Castlethorpe	1	-
Olney	1	-
Woburn Sands	1	-
	3	

MEASLES

Little Brickhill	8	-
Haversham	5	-
Woburn Sands	13	-
Bow Brickhill	13	-
Old Bradwell	2	-
Woughton	1	-
Emberton	1	-
Castlethorpe.	1	-
	44	

WHOOPING COUGH

Little Brickhill	1	-
Emberton	1	-
Lavendon	3	-
Old Bradwell	2	-
	7	

Table II

Disease	Scarlet Fever.		Pneumonia.		Puerperal Pyrexia		Erysipelas.		Measles.		Whooping Cough.	
Age Period	Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	N.	A. to H	N.	A. to H	N.	A. to H	N.	A. to H	N.	A. to H
Under 1 Yr.			1								1	
1 - 2 Yrs.	1								3		1	
2 - 3 "									4			
3 - 4 "	1	1							2		1	
4 - 5 "	3	3	1						5		1	
5 - 10 "	8	3	1						22		3	
10- 15 "	7	5							6			
15- 20 "			1									
20- 35 "			3		5				2			
35- 45 "	1	1	1				2					
45- 65 "			2									
Over 65 "							1					
Total	21	13	10		5		3		44		7	

Table III.

TUBERCULOSIS. - New Cases notified during 1943.

Age Period	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 Yr.				
1 - 5 Years				
5 - 10 "				2
10- 15 "				
15- 20 "			1	1
20- 25 "				
25- 35 "				
35- 45 "				
45- 55 "		1	2	
55- 65 "	1		1	
Over 65 "				
Total	1	1	4	3

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The year 1943 has been a satisfactory year especially as regards children under 5.

245 children under 5 - 99 between 5-15 years - were immunised.

Sessions were held at 7 Schools. At these Sessions 88 children under 5 and 99 between 5-15 years were immunised.

At the Infant Welfare Centres 135 children under 5 were immunised.

22 children under 5 were immunised by Private Practitioners under the Council's Scheme.

I append a detailed statement under the various headings :-

	Under 5 Yrs.	5-15 Years.
SCHOOLS		
Sherington	7	1
Castlethorpe	9	15
Olney	21	48
North Crawley	4	
Filgrave	5	6
Woughton	12	
Hanslope	30	29
Total	88	99
INFANT WELFARE CENTRES		
Newport Pagnell	13	
Bradwell	26	
Olney	40	
Lavendon	23	
Woburn Sands	33	
Total	135	
By PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS	22	

Thus there are 3 methods of attacking the problem. The Schools will continue to be visited periodically. This will necessarily deal with the children over 5, but in arranging the Sessions the Head Teachers are asked to let parents know that all children, whether over 5 or under, can avail themselves of these opportunities. I must here pay a tribute to the Head Teachers for their keenness and assistance. The figures given above show that more children under 5 were immunised than those over 5. This is very satisfactory, and I hope will continue.

/The Infant

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION (contd)

The Infant Welfare Centres are under the control of the County Council, and deal with children under 5. I think they have done a good piece of work and I am sure the Council is grateful to them for what they have done. Looking at the numbers, I think one is justified in assuming that parents are gradually realising the importance of immunisation and are becoming accustomed to taking their children to the Centres for that purpose. I am hoping that this work will steadily grow and be maintained.

To meet the case of those children who are not near a Centre I asked you to sanction a scheme whereby children could be immunised by their own Doctors free of cost to the parents. This you did. So far there has not been much response, but I am hoping this will grow. It takes time for parents to realise that they can do this, and time to make the Scheme known.

This concludes my Report.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY
Medical Officer of Health.

March 27th, 1944.